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JAN 15 2003
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF

KATSUMI KANEHIRA, ET AL.

: EXAMINER: LAU, T. S.

SERIAL NO: 09/774,621

:

FILED: FEBRUARY 1, 2001

: GROUP ART UNIT: 2863

FOR: DETERIORATION DIAGNOSTIC
METHOD AND EQUIPMENT
THEREOF

:

AMENDMENT

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

SIR:

In response to the Office Action dated October 23, 2002, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend Claims 1 and 2 as shown in the attached marked-up claims to read as follows:

1. (Amended) A deterioration diagnosis method, comprising the steps of:

formulating a corrosion loss of a metallic material to exposure days under an atmospheric condition as a function of environmental assessment points which represent a level of harmfulness of said atmospheric condition; and

~~diagnosing a life span of said metallic material based upon said corrosion loss calculated by using said function.~~

2. (Amended) A deterioration diagnosis method, comprising the steps of: